

December 3, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Fremont Times Indicator: Four families welcome nine new children in adoptions

"Nine children officially joined four new families at an Adoption Day ceremony on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the Newaygo County courthouse in White Cloud. Nine children sat with the families that had been created when their parents took them in. They listened as Judge Graydon Dimkoff made the relationships formal and official."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: High Court: Parole officer didn't have to read suspect Miranda rights

"The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday let stand a Michigan ruling that said a parole officer didn't have to read Miranda rights to a suspect before questioning him — even though he had previously asked for an attorney. Without comment, the court affirmed the Michigan Supreme Court's 5-2 decision in June that said a suspect in jail didn't have to be warned of his right to remain silent and right to consult with an attorney before being questioned by a parole officer."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Mich. juveniles deserve second chance

State Sen. Bert Johnson writes "... On Nov. 26, U.S. District Judge John Corbett O'Meara issued an order requiring Michigan to implement a system to review potential parole for individuals serving automatic life without parole sentences they received as juveniles. This would bring the state into compliance with the Miller decision, though Attorney General Bill Schuette does not believe the decision applies retroactively."

[Full story](#)

Flint Journal: State Supreme Court orders St. Clair County judge to look at police photos from decades old Temujin Kensu case

"The Michigan Supreme Court is ordering a St. Clair County judge to take another look at the case of a man convicted of killing another man in a college parking lot decades ago. It's the latest attempt by Temujin Kensu to get his 1987 conviction and life sentence overturned. Kensu, a Burton native, was formerly known as Fred Freeman."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Times Herald/Port Huron: Decades-old murder back in court; Hearing will look at lineup photos

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Police photos at issue in new look at '87 Port Huron slaying case

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Police photos at issue in new look at '87 case

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Man who ran medical marijuana collective pleads guilty to misdemeanor after 3-year court battle

"A three-year court battle over the interpretation of the Michigan Marijuana Act as it pertains to collective grow operations has come to a likely conclusion with a plea agreement in Kent County Circuit Court...."

Judge George Butth rejected the argument that [Ryan] Bylsma was in compliance because only 24 of the plants belonged to the defendant. That decision was upheld by the Michigan Court of Appeals and State Supreme Court."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Court to take look at jobless pay for pot users

"The Michigan appeals court has agreed to hear two cases to determine whether someone fired for using medical marijuana still can collect unemployment benefits from the state. Judges in Ingham and Kent counties have reversed decisions of a state agency and ruled in favor of two people who sought benefits after being dismissed."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune and the Oakland Press.

The Macomb Daily: Supreme Court declines to hear Troy Transit Center case; city to make purchase offer, possibly condemn land

"Troy officials hope their offer of \$550,000 to repurchase the site of its new transit center from Grand/Sakwa Properties LLC will end the lengthy court fight with the developer, after the Michigan Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal from the city Monday [November 25]. If the offer is declined, the city would likely condemn the land, City Attorney Lori Grigg Bluhm said Wednesday, leading to an eminent domain case that could increase the cost of acquisition."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Daily Tribune and the Oakland Press.

The News-Herald/Southgate: DETROIT: Lincoln Park Court clerk to be sentenced for embezzlement

"A bond clerk will be sentenced Thursday for embezzling from the 25th District Court in Lincoln Park. Catherine Smith, 31, of Allen Park, pleaded guilty in October before Wayne County Circuit Judge James Chylinski to one count of embezzlement by a public official over \$50 and one count of embezzlement over \$1,000."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland County Legal News: Judge provides update on court's progress

"Michigan Court of Appeals Judge Michael Talbot was the guest speaker at the Polish American Legal Society (PALS) general meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 13, at the Polish Village Cafe in Hamtramck."

[Full story](#)

Saginaw News: Saginaw man who said he'd kill again, join al-Qaida gets longest possible sentence

"A judge on Monday, Dec. 2, handed down the longest possible minimum sentence for a Saginaw man who said he would kill again and become a terrorist after serving a prison sentence for manslaughter of his neighbor. After waiting a week to decide on prosecutors' request to exceed Bradford S. Mitchell's state sentencing guidelines, Saginaw County Circuit Judge Robert L. Kaczmarek did so, sentencing Mitchell to a minimum of 15 years in prison."

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: The Jury's Still Out: New Court of Claims As A Work in Progress

"The enactment of broad structural changes to Michigan's Court of Claims in a veritable blink of a legislative eye left some very big questions unanswered, including what the effect of the new law is on the availability of jury trials in cases before the court. The Governor himself pointed to the need for a 'trailer bill' clarifying the right to jury trial at the same time that he was signing the changes into law."

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Convicted criminals set to spend years behind bars go missing thanks to judges' generosity

"... In Wayne County Circuit Court, some convicted criminals are enjoying a new lease on life. They were supposed to spend years locked up but thanks to a judge's generosity, they're free to roam the streets. Since our last report, little has changed. Over a recent 4 month stretch, 77 men and women failed to return to court after their conviction. Most of the crimes were minor enough to just warrant probation. but many did not."

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Lawsuit against judge over child's removal can go forward

"A federal judge has ruled that a couple's lawsuit against a Wayne County judge can go forward. They accuse family court Judge Judy Hartsfield of improperly having their son removed from their custody, relying on pre-signed child-removal orders filled out by a clerk."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Changes in the child welfare system not reaching all families

[Full story](#)